

Remarks

The term “we-etching” in Claim 26 has been corrected as “wet-etching” to overcome the spelling error. Claim 1 has been rewritten by incorporating Claim 12 thereinto. Claim 19 has been rewritten by incorporating Claim 25 thereinto. Claim 37 has been rewritten by incorporating Claim 43 thereinto. Moreover, Claims 12, 25, 43 and 45 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the present patent application is respectfully requested. All of the amendments can be supported by the specification of the present invention, and therefore there is no new matter added therein.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant acknowledges the Examiner’s indication that Claims 7-9, 12-14, 25, 29, 35-36 and 42-44 are objected to as dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. In this regard, Claim 1 now incorporates the limitations of Claim 12, Claim 19 now incorporates the limitations of Claim 25, and Claim 37 now incorporates the limitations of Claim 43. For at least those reasons, amended Claims 1, 19, and 37 are patentable over the art of record. Notwithstanding their recitation of independently patentable subject matter, dependent claims 2-13, 14-18, 20-21, 26-36, 38-42 and 44 are allowable as a matter of law in that they depend directly or indirectly from one of an allowable independent claim.

Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application along with the presently allowed claims is earnestly solicited at an early date.

U.S.S.N. 10/636,103
Filed: August 7, 2003
AMENDMENT &
RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Conclusions

The applicants believe they have responded to each matter raised by the Examiner. Allowance of the claims is respectfully solicited. Any questions may be directed to the undersigned at 404.853.8233. It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR §1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-5029.

Respectfully submitted,



Malvern U. Griffin III
Reg. No. 38,899

Date: **July 13, 2005**

SUTHERLAND ASBILL & BRENNAN LLP
999 Peachtree Street NE
Atlanta, GA 30309-3996
404.853.8233
404.853.8806 (fax)